

WEST VIRGINIA BROADBAND DEPLOYMENT COUNCIL

Wednesday, January 13, 2010 @ 9:00 a.m.

The meeting of the West Virginia Broadband Deployment Council was held in Building 6, Room 6A on Wednesday, January 13, 2010, at 9:00 a.m.

The following members participated:

Kelley Goes
Michael Kelemen (via phone)
Lee Fisher (via phone)
Dr. Jan Fox (via phone)
Jimmy Gianato
Sarah Smith
Kyle Schafer
Mike Friloux (via phone)

Additional participants:

Jonathan Cauldwell (via phone)
Mark Polen
Andrea Rayl
John Baisden (via phone)

After a quorum was established, Chair Goes welcomed the Council and called the meeting to order.

Business

Chair Goes asked for the approval of the minutes from the December meeting of the Broadband Deployment Council. The Council approved the minutes with no objection.

Other Business

With no specific items for discussion on the agenda, Chair Goes asked the individual members of the Council for updates.

Mike Friloux opened the updates by briefly commenting on the economic squeeze on broadband initiatives in the private sector. He said that there is retrenchment on wholesale side, with the exception being broadband access to wireless towers that support 3G networks.

Dr. Fox invited the Council to the Research and Cyber Infrastructure Conference on January 11, 2010, members may either attend the event in person or view it on the web.

Lee Fisher updated the Council on the Gilmer/Braxton Research Institute and their broadband application. Within the last year they have used ARC money to provide wireless deployment in the Flatwoods area. Mr. Fisher stated that the Gilmer/Braxton Research Institute is one of the only groups that have dedicated themselves to last mile. Right now they are just waiting to see what they will be awarded.

Jimmy Gianato's office has been working on almost a daily basis with NTIA to answer questions and revise information on state's application. From the public safety side they have turned up 4 additional towers on the turnpike, around the capitol complex, in the eastern panhandle and several sites going up the Ohio River.

Mike Keleman, speaking on behalf of Suddenlink, shared the announcement that they are planning speed increases for almost their entire subscriber base. They have also received special capital funding over next 3 years that will support a variety of initiatives. Like most everyone else they are waiting to see what will happen with the broadband stimulus.

Chair Goes stepped out of the meeting and Jimmy Gianato took over until her return. After all the council members were finished giving updates, Jimmy Gianato asked if any of the members had any other business they wanted to bring before the Council.

Lee Fisher asked about the reported delay of the stimulus money. Mr. Gianato stated that he has not heard anything about the delay, but that the State has been working with a consultant to work on the State's application.

Lee Fisher asked about the grant that State received for mapping. Jimmy Gianato answered that the The Office of the GIS Coordinator has put together a RFP that goes through purchasing. They are currently making any final changes, and hope to have it go out the week of January 18, 2010. Lee Fisher asked if some of the same people would respond to the RFP that responded last year. Mr. Gianato responded that they would most likely see some of the same people reply, but that there may be a greater response.

Michael Kelemen asked if there would be a renewed request for provider information. Mr. Gianato answered that he would think that they would because things have changed since the last time they requested information.

Chair Goes returned to the meeting, and with no other business or questions from the Council she asked if there was any public comment.

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Adjournment

The next meeting will be noticed for February 10, 2010, at 9:00 a.m. The meeting location, call-in number and agenda will be provided prior to the meeting.

With no other business, the meeting adjourned at 9:18 a.m.